



SOCIETY SOCIAL



DID YOU KNOW?



THINGS TO DO



YOUR SPACE



COCKTAILS and CANAPÉS with the CANADIAN AMBASSADOR

On the occasion of re-starting the activities of the Austrian Canadian Society after all too long an absence, please join us to welcome the new Canadian Ambassador His Excellency Mr Troy Lulashnyk and reconnect in person under the chestnut trees of the Prater. Beverages and hors d'oeuvres will be provided as a kick off to the ACS season courtesy of the Society.

Thursday June 16th, from 18:30
Tennis Club Schwarz Blau, Rustenschacherallee 7, 1020 Wien

This is an **RSVP event!**

ASAP Please register your attendance events@austria-canada.com



SOCIETY SOCIAL

A REGULAR AND INFORMAL
DROP-IN STYLE GATHERING IN A
DIFFERENT LOCATION EACH
MONTH.

THE 1ST BEVERAGE IS ALWAYS
'ON THE HOUSE'!

SOCIETY SOCIAL WILL RESUME IN JULY
MEETING DETAILS TO BE PROVIDED IN JULY
NEWSLETTER

**DID YOU
KNOW?****AUSTRIA - CANADA
FUN FACTS**

The venue for our June 16th evening with The Canadian Ambassador is a sports club with a bit of Viennese history - Tennis Club Schwarz Blau.

The club was established in 1896 as a bicycle club for the Court Officials of the Imperial House of Kaiser Franz Josef, where cycling skills were practised on an elliptical track. Tennis courts were later added and after the end of the monarchy it was used as a sports club for State Officials until it received its current name in 1938.

The Art Nouveau clubhouse was designed by Joseph Maria Olbrich, employee of the famed architect Otto Wagner and one of the founding members of the Vienna Secession. The clubhouse represents Olbrich's only secular building from his short Viennese creative period. The building is now a protected historical site and the only tennis club in Vienna to have an entry in the well known Leopold Museum.



WHAT'S ON

EDITOR'S PICK OF A FEW THINGS GOING ON ABOUT TOWN EACH MONTH.

Museums to visit before these exhibitions end in June:

- Albertina - *Munch* exhibition (until June 19) www.albertina.at
- MAK - *Josef Hoffmann* exhibition (until June 19) www.mak.at
- Bank Austria Kunstforum - *David Hockney* (until June 19) www.kunstforumwien.at
- Kunsthistorisches Museum - *Iron Men, Fashion in Steel* (until June 26) www.khm.at

On an animal theme:

- Dr. Jane Goodall live, one night only May 31. Tickets still available to see the grande dame of primate research and listen to her story in '*An Evening of Hope with Jane Goodall*'. Information and tickets www.janegoodall.at/an-evening-of-hope/
- The National Library has a unique exhibition titled *The Emperor's Most Beautiful Animals* showcasing how wild animals featured prominently in life in the Imperial Court. (until June 26) www.onb.ac.at/museen/prunksaal
- MAK - Chernobyl Safari photographic exhibition by Anna Jermolaewa (until June 5) www.mak.at

Spiritual/Music:

- *The Long Night of the Churches* June 10. Wade in and out of over 150 participating churches in Vienna late into the night accompanied by choirs, organ and other concerts www.langenachtderkirchen.at



MEMBERS' CORNER

HAVE YOU A COFFEE HOUSE OR RESTAURANT TO REVIEW, A TRAVEL TIP, AN OPINION PIECE, AN ANECDOTE OF NOTE, YOUR BUSINESS TO PROMOTE, SOMETHING TO SELL, OR ANYTHING ELSE.

PLEASE SEND CONTENT TO KAREN CONOLEY:
VICEPRESIDENT@AUSTRIA-CANADA.COM

Members' Corner Contributor for June: Svetlana Shuster

Let me introduce myself. My name is Svetlana Shuster. I hold a Masters degree with a major in Political Science from the University of Toronto. I have been a member of the Canadian-Austrian society for more than 5 years. I come from Russia, live here in Vienna and have strong connections to Canada. Working on *NAVALNY*, a film by Daniel Roher, a young Canadian director from Toronto, about Russian political machinations, was a dream come true after years of following the intricate politics of Russia from a distance. Here, I would like to share my experiences with researching and translating a movie that somehow tied together Russia, Austria and Canada.

My first contact with Canada was when the University of Toronto gave me a unique opportunity to study Politics and History at the Center for European Studies. It was many years ago at the time when President Putin just came to power. My choice to study in Canada was deliberate and very carefully thought through. The Canadian people have always fought to stay independent, the country has been free of imperial aspirations and has proved its commitment to multiculturalism. Moreover, I felt that very often it's only when one's far away from the battlefield at home, that one might succeed in becoming an unbiased critical thinker.

Vienna is one of the stages for this political story. This might surprise some, but after all, this European capital is home to many international organizations and is even rumoured to host a nest of spies. I don't know much about the latter, but have met here many extraordinary international artists, musicians, and independent journalists. It's no wonder that one of the protagonists of the film Christo Grozev, a founder of the investigative journalism group Bellingcat, lives, works and investigates political crimes from this wonderful place. Thus, Vienna became a second home for the film and on screen the city is shown through the lens of a remarkably talented Austrian cameraman Niki Walti.

I hope Daniel Roher will in future speak to the Austrian-Canadian society and share his motivations and inspiration for making this film. I feel lucky that as his team, we were granted the opportunity to document the historical investigation of the attempted assassination of Navalny as it was unfolding in real time, and that we were brave enough to trust the filmmakers to deliver a faithful representation of these events that are so important for Russia. The latter being an uneasy proposition due to the confidentiality and secrecy around the project.

Overall, Daniel ended up with 500 hours of video material. The way he chose scenes and put them all together made the film much more than just a well-researched documentary. The film is witty (it's unbelievable, but everyone has a smile while watching it), kind, magical and artistic. I ended up watching it twice and will surely see it again. The first time, for me, was all about the political content and for the second, I wanted to pay more attention to its artistic aspect.

It goes without saying that this film comes out at a critical time. There is an opposition in Russia, which is severely repressed. There are Russian people, who strive for pluralism, transparency, democracy and I'm very thankful for the courageous director from Canada for giving them a chance to be heard.

The film *NAVALNY* premiered on 3 May 2022 in Austria and is currently playing at theaters across Vienna.